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LARRY KING, LEGEND OF U.S. TV TALK SHOW, PASSES AWAY AT 87

Staple of US television for decades, King lost his battle with Covid at Cedars-Sinai Med Centre in Los Angeles on Saturday

CELEBRITIES, LEADERS JUST A CALL AWAY

The Larry King Show ran from 1978 until 1994, winning King a coveted Peabody Award in 1982. He started Larry King Live on CNN in 1985, a show that covered a wide range of topics. In 1995 he presided over a Middle East peace summit. His show featured everyone from the Dalai Lama to Elizabeth Taylor, from Mikhail Gorbachev to Barack Obama, Bill Gates to Lady Gaga

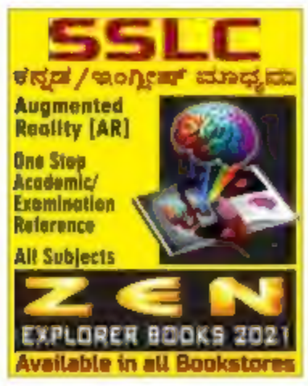
SANG WITH SINATRA, KISSED BRANDO

- Frank Sinatra, who rarely gave interviews, appeared on King's show in 1988 in what would be the singer's last major TV appearance
- More elusive than Sinatra was Marlon Brando, but the latter appeared on King's show in 1994. They hit it off so famously that they ended their talk with a song and an on-the-mouth kiss | PTI

50,000

ON-AIR INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY KING IN HIS FIVE-DECADE CAREER

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARWAD • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI



EXPRESS READ

AAP MLA gets 2 years jail in assault case

New Delhi: Aam Aadmi Party MLA Somnath Bharti was on Saturday sentenced to two years in jail by a court here in a 2016 case related to assaulting AIIMS security staff.

Another underground tunnel found in J-K

Jammu: The BSF on Saturday found a second underground tunnel, constructed by Pakistan in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, to facilitate the infiltration of terrorists. P9

PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

VACCINE DRIVE IN STATE

Karnataka continues to be on the top among states in the number of beneficiaries taking the vaccine. Here's a look at how the vaccination drive went off in the past week (Jan 16 - Jan 23)

4,106	Sessions planned	56%	Coverage
4,049	Sessions held		
3,28,478	Target beneficiaries	9	Adverse events (AEFIs)
1,84,154	Achieved		

TOTAL VACCINE DOSES RECEIVED

12,52,000	Covishield
1,66,240	Covaxin
55,00,000	Syringes

Mamata Banerjee participates in a foot march to mark Netaji's 125th birth anniversary, in Kolkata on Saturday | PTI

Strong India following in Netaji footsteps: PM

Bitter political fight to appropriate Bose's legacy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday sought to draw a parallel between Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's vision and his government's action at an event to mark the legendary freedom fighter's 125th birth anniversary in Kolkata.

Modi said Netaji would have been proud to see that the country has become strong and is following in his footsteps from the Line of Control (LoC) to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with Pakistan and China, respectively. "Netaji had dreamt of a strong India, from LAC to LoC. We are following in his footsteps. Whenever our sovereignty was challenged, we have given a befitting reply," he said at a programme held in the Victoria Memorial Hall here. "Netaji wanted to build an Atmanirbhar Bharat. Today, India is heading towards the same goal," said Modi.

The PM's visit assumed significance ahead of the Assembly polls in West Bengal. Apart from recalling Netaji's contribution, Modi's speech projected the Bengal icon as the leading light of India's Independence whose dreams the present government is trying to realise. He also likened his party's 'Sonar Bangla' slogan with Netaji's dream. The 'Sonar Bangla' slogan has become a political tool of the BJP to attack Mamata's "poor" governance.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who also attended the event, was visibly angry as a section of the crowd chanted *Jai Shri Ram* when her turn came to speak. "I think the government's programme should have dignity. .... It (slogan) doesn't suit you to insult an invitee. In protest, I will not speak anything," Mamata said and returned to her seat on the dais next to Modi. P9,10

Why not four national capitals, asks Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

AS West Bengal politics heated up ahead of the make-or-break Assembly elections later this year, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee set the cat among the pigeons on Saturday, demanding four separate capitals in the country with four parliament sessions in these cities on rotation.

Speaking at an event to mark Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary hours before Prime Minister Narendra Modi landed in Kolkata to participate in another Netaji function, Banerjee asked: "The British ruled the entire country from Kolkata. Why should there be only one capital in our country, why not four national capitals in North, South, East and West?" She went on to ask: "Why can't four parliament sessions be held on a rotational basis?"

Earlier, Banerjee took part in a road show stretching 5.5 kms. She inaugurated Netaji's birthday celebration by blowing conch shells and visited the Netaji Bhavan, the late Indian National Army leader's home in the city. Taking a dig at the Centre's unilateral decision to mark January 23 as Parakram Diwas (day of valour), Banerjee said: "We celebrate Netaji's birthday every year, we don't celebrate it only in the year of elections."

The contrasting moods of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at the Victoria Memorial Hall event | TWITTER

What is Parakram Diwas (day of valour)? How could they unilaterally decide to mark January 23 as Parakram Diwas without consulting the state government? We have called it Desh Nayak Diwas – Mamata Banerjee, CM

CM DRAWS FIRE OVER CALL TO GET ILLEGAL QUARRIES 'REGULARISED'

K SHIVAKUMAR @Mysuru/Bengaluru

ON a day the death toll in the Shivamogga stone quarry explosion increased to six and explosives experts from Hyderabad joined the investigation, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's statement asking unauthorised miners to apply for regularisation triggered a major political slugfest on Saturday.

In an indicator of the gravity of the situation, the Centre has taken serious note of the blast and directed the state to probe how such a huge quantity of explosives was procured and stored. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked the state to consider the case seriously.

Speaking to mediapersons in Mysuru before taking a chopper to visit the blast site in his home district Shivamogga, the CM asked illegal miners to apply with the respective District Deputy Commissioners for regularisation. His remarks drew sharp criticism from the Opposition Congress, prompting an immediate clarification from Home and Law & Parliamentary Affairs Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa visits the quarry where six labourers died in a blast near Shivamogga, on Saturday | SHIMOGA MANDAN

"Shivamogga has witnessed a major tragedy. I have ordered a comprehensive inquiry into the cause of the blast, if the explosives were stored illegally, who permitted the transportation of explosive substance in a lorry and all other aspects. The officers have also been directed to look into whether the mine is legal," the CM said.

Responding to a question on illegal mining in many places, the CM said mining activities will continue as development works like construction of national highways and other projects are being taken up in a big way. "I have directed the deputy commissioners not to permit illegal mining. Those carrying out illegal mining should apply for regularisation or face action. I have no objection to operation of stone-crushing units. If necessary, the DCs concerned will inspect the spot and take appropriate decisions," he said. P4

Nod to farmers' tractor rally after R-Day parade

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

IT seems the talks between the Centre and the farmer unions have hit a dead end. After marathon meetings on Saturday, the farmer leaders said they were firm on their demand for repeal of the agri laws.

Farmer union leaders said that the issue did not even come up for discussion at the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) meeting. "In the meeting of the Samkyukt Kisan Morcha, an umbrella body of around 40 farmer organisations, the only discussion was on what happened in the meeting of farmer leaders with Delhi Police earlier in the day. The farmer leaders were briefed about that and the route for the tractor rally was discussed," said a union leader after the SKM meeting.

Earlier, after the meeting between Delhi Police and 32 unions, the farmer leaders claimed they had received permission for the tractor parade on Republic Day. Budging from their demand that the rally will be held on Outer Ring Road, the farmers are likely to opt out of it. An estimated one lakh tractors will be part of the rally.

Sources said the parade will have five routes over a stretch of over 100 km. The farmers are likely to confine their parade to the inner roads of the Capital. Delhi Police agreed to remove barricades from Singhu and Tikri borders to allow tractors to enter Delhi, for the rally that is likely to take place after the official Republic Day parade.

Farmers stage a protest during the 'Kisan Sansad' at Guru Tegh Bahadur Memorial in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

During the 11th round of talks on Friday, the Centre had asked the farmer leaders to reconsider its proposal to put the laws on hold for 18-24 months and set up a panel to consider amendments to the law, an offer the unions had already rejected a day earlier. The Centre told them this was its 'final' proposal and asked them to reconsider it and come with a better offer, if they had any, barring the repeal of the laws, on January 22. P9

B'luru will have separate body to manage traffic

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WITH Bengaluru ranking sixth among 10 cities with the worst traffic across the world as per the recent Tom Tom Traffic Index, the state is planning to have a a separate Traffic Management Authority for the city.

Speaking at the launch of the Road Safety Awareness month, Home and Law Minister Basavaraj Bommai said Bengaluru's traffic population is fast catching up with the human population. In Bengaluru alone, there is 85 lakh vehicles for the 1.35 crore people. The numbers have increased manifold over the last 10 years and hence, a proper management system is necessary. For this, the Home Department, along with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, will come up with a Traffic Management Authority that will ensure the easing of traffic congestion in the city, he explained.

"The vehicle population in Bengaluru is about 85 lakh while in the rest of the state, it is around 2.32 lakh. This means we have to ensure there is proper management to decongest traffic," Bommai said. "It is important that the Home department works with BBMP and the IT sector to implement traffic discipline and also good traffic management. We will be bringing in sophisticated systems with modern technology soon," he said. P2

Big, bold moves put Karnataka's economy back on growth path

ANUSHA RAVI @ Bengaluru

"THERE will be no lockdown in Bengaluru or anywhere in the state from now on. People need to get back to their lives. The state has to consider reviving the economy too," Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa had said in July 2020 amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The decision came at a time many states were still extending the lockdown and imposing curfews in an attempt to curtail the spread of coronavirus.

BIG PICTURE

It was perhaps this risky and bold, but much-needed decision that has put Karnataka's economy on the road to recovery. Six months down the line, with subsidies, incentives, facilitation, heavy borrowings, fund rationalisation, labour and land law amendments, along with a whole lot of cost-cutting measures, Karnataka's economy is steadily picking up pace. Whether in terms of revenue receipts or sector-wise growth, Karnataka is doing better month after month while, at the same time, managing to keep the number of Covid-19 cases in check. Though the state may still fall short of achieving revenue and growth targets due to the impact of the pandemic, its recovery has been better than anticipated, according to the State Finance department.

On Friday, Union Minister for Chemical and Fertilisers D V Sadananda Gowda said the Central Government had given its in-principal approval for setting up a Plastic Park in Mangaluru. P7

BIG-TICKET PROJECTS

₹1,702 cr
for Vasantha Narasapura industrial hub expected to create 88,500 jobs in 5 years

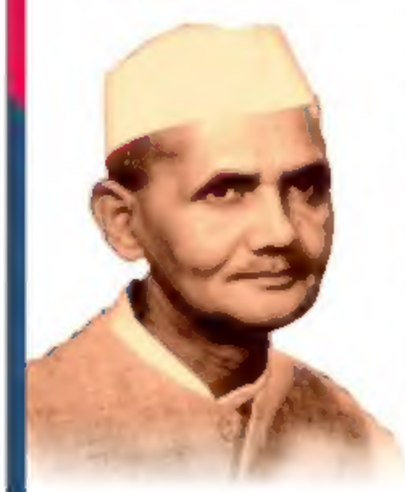
Koppal toy cluster with an investment commitment of ₹1,540 crore expected to create 40,000 - one lakh jobs in five years

₹323 cr
for elevated corridor at Rani Chennamma Circle in Hubballi city and construction of four-lane road and minor bridge near Dastikoppa, Kalaghatgi taluk, on NH 63 under national highways projects

25 YEARS SILVER JUBILEE
LBSIM
NURTURING SOCIALLY SENSITIVE BUSINESS LEADERS

Nominations are invited for

LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE: 2021



BHARAT RATNA
SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI
(1904-1966)

Nominations are invited for the 22nd **Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence: 2021** which honours each year a distinguished Indian, residing either in India or abroad, for his/her sustained individual contributions and outstanding achievements of high professional order and excellence in the field of management, public administration, public affairs, education, institution building, art & culture and sports. The Awardee will be selected by a jury comprising of eminent persons.

The Award is given every year on October 1, the eve of the birth anniversary of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. The honour carries an award of Rs. Five Lakh plus a citation and a plaque and the awardee is designated as Lal Bahadur Shastri fellow.

EARLIER RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD

Smt. Sudha Murty, 2020
Dr. (Smt.) Manju Sharma, 2019
Shri Fali Sam Nariman, 2018
Shri Bindeshwar Pathak, 2017
Dr. Gopal Krishan Gandhi, 2016
Dr. Prannoy Roy, 2015
Dr. Apathukatha S. Pillai, 2014
Dr. R.A. Badwe, 2013
Smt. Tessy Thomas, 2012
late Prof. Yash Pal, 2011
Smt. Aruna Roy, 2010
Shri Sunil Bharti Mittal, 2009
Dr. E. Sreedharan, 2008
Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, 2007
Dr. Naresh Trehan, 2006
late Dr. C.P. Srivastava, 2005
Smt. Ela Ramesh Bhatt, 2004
Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, 2003
Shri N.R. Narayana Murthy, 2002
Shri Sam Pitroda, 2001 and
late Prof. C.K. Prahlad, 2000

Nominations may be sent in confidence to the undersigned latest by March 31, 2021

Nomination form may be obtained from the Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Plot No. 11/7, Sector-11, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 or can be downloaded from Website: www.lbsim.ac.in
Tel.: 011-25307700 (100 Lines), Fax: 91-11-25307799, Email: director@lbsim.ac.in

Chairman, LBSIM, Delhi